

SAN TAN MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

PARK HOURS:

Sunday – Thursday: 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday – Saturday: 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.
365 days a year

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

ADMIN. OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

PARK FEES:

\$6 vehicle day-use entry fee (no additional fees for programs, unless otherwise noted)

DIRECTIONS:

From central Phoenix, take I-10 east to US 60 east. Exit Ellsworth Road south to Hunt Highway. Travel east on Hunt Highway to Thompson Road south. Turn west on Phillips Road to the San Tan Mountain Regional Park entrance.



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.
San Tan Mountain Regional Park
6533 W. Phillips Road
Queen Creek, AZ 85242
Ph: (480) 655-5554
Fax: (480) 655-6026
santanpark@mail.maricopa.gov



January FEATURED PROGRAMS

Kids VS Wild

Date: 1/4/2013 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Venture out into the wild of the Sonoran Desert for a survival challenge that will put your skills to the test. Use your brains, brawn and the special skills you will learn from Ranger Adam, to make it through a top secret trail full of surprises at every bend. Once you make it out of the wild, you will get a chance to meet a real life desert survivor who has never slept in a bed, never taken a shower and is covered in scales. Kids are encouraged, but not required, to pack a survival backpack full of survival gear they think they may need during the hike (roughly 0.75miles). Please remember to wear closed toed shoes, bring water and pack only what you can carry during the hike. This hike is not intended for strollers.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Sunset Ride with the Ranger

Date: 1/18/2013 **Time:** 4:30 p.m.

Description: Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the San Tan Mountains as you navigate the park by horseback on a special sunset ride. Our ranger and the professionals from MD Ranch will guide you through the Sonoran Desert on a scenic trail ride you will

never forget. Learn about the plants and animals that call San Tan home. Horses must be reserved ahead of time through MD Ranch (480-331-7893). Space is limited.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Stargazing For Everyone

Date: 1/19/2013 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Description: Come watch the sky with us! Look through telescopes (setup for your viewing pleasure) and enjoy a slide presentation under the stars. Learn the names of stars, see the constellations, and listen to stories of the night sky. When visible, view the craters of the moon, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and the rings of Saturn. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for your comfort. Information about the Challenger Learning Center of Arizona will be provided. This is a fun night out! Come alone or bring your entire family or group. We encourage you to bring your binoculars or family telescope and enjoy the views from San Tan Mountains Regional Park.

Core: Astronomy

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MONTHLY EVENTS

Talk With the Animals

Date: 1/2/2013 **Time:** 10 a.m.
Description: When was the last time you sat and had a conversation with some desert animals? Come join Ranger Adam at the Visitor Center and get as close as you can (safely) to snakes, scorpions, spiders, lizards, and tortoises. This will be an open house style program where guests are welcome to come and go as they please, ask questions, take photos and even touch a reptile.

Core: Animals

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Creature Feature

Date: 1/2/2013 **Time:** 12:30 p.m.
Description: Sit back, relax and enjoy a cinematic adventure on San Tan's very own HUGE projector screen. Watch this amazing movie in the warmth of the nature center surrounded by a friendly collection of desert wildlife. Before the movie starts, be prepared for an amazing animal presentation and chance to meet the cool critters of San Tan. Bring your snacks, blankets and pillows to watch this exciting movie in style.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Kids VS Wild

Date: 1/4/2013 **Time:** 10 a.m.
Description: Venture out into the wild of the Sonoran Desert for a survival challenge that will put your skills to the test. Use your brains, brawn and the special skills you will learn from Ranger Adam, to make it through a top secret trail full of surprises at every bend. Once you make it out of the wild, you will get a chance to meet a real life desert survivor who has never slept in a bed, never taken a shower and is covered in scales. Kids are encouraged, but not required, to pack a survival backpack full of survival gear they think they may need during the hike (roughly 0.75miles). Please remember to wear closed toed shoes, bring water and pack only what you can carry during the hike. This hike is not intended for strollers.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Archery 101 at 10a.m.

Date: 1/5/2013 **Time:** 10 a.m.
Description: Maricopa County Parks and Recreation and Arizona Game and Fish are excited to get you behind the bow with a fun introduction to archery. Ages 8 and up are welcome to participate in the fun and safe sport of International Target Style Archery. This is a great way to get involved with this amazing sport and best of all; we will provide all the equipment. All you need to do is reserve a spot by calling 480.655.5554 or emailing Ranger Adam at adammartell@mail.maricopa.gov, then show up and let the fun begin. Adults are welcome to participate too. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR CLOSED-TOED SHOES.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Archery 101 at 1p.m.

Date: 1/5/2013 **Time:** 1 p.m.
Description: Maricopa County Parks and Recreation and Arizona Game and Fish are excited to get you behind the bow with a fun introduction to archery. Ages 8 and up are welcome to participate in the fun and safe sport of International Target Style Archery. This is a great way to get involved with this amazing sport and best of all; we will provide all the equipment. All you need to do is reserve a spot by calling 480.655.5554 or emailing Ranger Adam at adammartell@mail.maricopa.gov, then show up and let the fun begin. Adults are welcome to participate too. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR CLOSED-TOED SHOES.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Archery 202

Date: 1/5/2013 **Time:** 3 p.m.
Description: Take your archery skills to the next level by fine tuning your technique through a variety of fun games and exciting shooting exercises. Participants must have successfully completed a Maricopa County Parks and Rec Archery 101 or Intro to Archery class and present

their Archer's card to the instructor before the start of the class. To reserve your spot, call 480.655.5554 or email Ranger Adam at adammartell@mail.maricopa.gov, then show up and let the fun begin. This class is open to ages 8 and up. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring water hats and closed-toed shoes.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Sunset Desert Photography Hike

Date: 1/11/2013 **Time:** 5 p.m.
Description: Capture the desert full of color as the day transitions to night and an unbelievable display of colors and shadows fill the desert. We are going to hike on a portion of the Moonlight Trail (approximately 1-mile round-trip) to several special viewing treasures. Please remember to bring plenty of water, proper hiking attire, and of course... your camera.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Man of the Mountain Hike

Date: 1/12/2013 **Time:** 10 a.m.
Description: Imagine living underneath the shelter of a Palo Verde tree as you mine for gold in the heat of the desert. While this may not be the typical lifestyle many of us would choose, learn about the enchanting true story of a man that did just that and the remarkable impact he had on those he came in contact with. Join our Interpretive Ranger for this awe-inspiring 2-mile voyage along the Goldmine Trail to uncover the mysterious life of the Man of the Mountain and to find out who is buried in the graves at San Tan Mountain Regional Park.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Snake Feeding

Date: 1/12/2013 **Time:** 12 p.m.
Description: It's dinner time at San Tan and our snakes have an appetite that can only be described as "striking." Watch as the Snakes and Gila Monster, inside the visitor center, stretch their jaws and swallow their prey whole. Feel free to ask the ranger questions and learn some

SAN TAN MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

"rattling" new facts about reptiles. (Please note that this event will feature snakes eating pre-killed mice and may not be suitable for all ages.)
Core: Animals

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Trail Master 5

Date: 1/13/2013 **Time:** 9 a.m.
Description: Have you hiked all 20 miles of the beautiful trails at San Tan? Join the adventure and increase your skill level as we hike every trail in the park, while gradually increasing difficulty as we go along. This is the second hike in the series and will be 5.5-miles round trip. Please wear appropriate hiking attire and bring water.
Core: Health & Fitness

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Home School – Gold Rush

Date: 1/16/2013 **Time:** 10 a.m.
Description: If your kids are ready to go on an educational adventure, then join us for another exciting Home School at the Park. Get involved as we explore the "rich" history of San Tan during an exciting series of mining inspired activities, with an opportunity to pan for real gold. Please bring water and wear closed toed shoes. This class and hike (roughly 0.5-miles) are designed for children 5 and up.
Core: Geology

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Sunset Ride with the Ranger on a horse

Date: 1/18/2013 **Time:** 4:30 p.m.
Description: Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the San Tan Mountains as you navigate the park by horseback on a special sunset ride. Our ranger and the professionals from MD Ranch will guide you through the Sonoran Desert on a scenic trail ride you will never forget. Learn about the plants and animals that call San Tan home. Horses must be reserved ahead of time through MD Ranch (480-331-7893). Space is limited.
Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Stargazing For Everyone

Date: 1/19/2013 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
Description: Come watch the sky with us! Look through telescopes (setup for your viewing pleasure) and enjoy a slide presentation under the

stars. Learn the names of stars, see the constellations, and listen to stories of the night sky. When visible, view the craters of the moon, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and the rings of Saturn. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for your comfort. Information about the Challenger Learning Center of Arizona will be provided. This is a fun night out! Come alone or bring your entire family or group. We encourage you to bring your binoculars or family telescope and enjoy the views from San Tan Mountains Regional Park.
Core: Astronomy

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Full Moon Hike –Adults Only

Date: 1/25/2013 **Time:** 7 p.m.
Description: Leave the kids at home, and join us on a breath taking adventure into the Sonoran Desert at night. Watch as the trails become illuminated under the light from the full moon, listen to the sounds of the wildlife at night, and feel the cool, crisp desert air as we peacefully make our way around the Stargazer loop (2.2-miles). Flashlights are encouraged.
Core: Health & Fitness

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Lunch with the Snakes

Date: 1/26/2013 **Time:** 12 p.m.
Description: It's lunch time at San Tan and our snakes have an appetite that can only be described as "striking." Watch as the Snakes and Gila Monster, inside the visitor center, stretch their jaws and swallow their prey whole. Feel free to ask the ranger questions and learn some "rattling" new facts about reptiles. You are welcome to bring your lunch if you would like something to munch on as well. (Please note that this event will feature snakes eating pre-killed mice and may not be suitable for all ages.)
Core: Animals

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Sunset Full Moon Hike

Date: 1/26/2013 **Time:** 5:30 p.m.
Description: Join us for a special treat as we watch the sun set at the same time the full moon rises. Once the amazing show of sunset colors fades to black, the full moon will illuminate our path through 2.2 miles of a stunning Sonoran Desert night

scene. Bring your cameras and water for a spectacular night hike you won't forget.

Core: Health & Fitness

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Birding Adventure

Date: 1/27/2013 **Time:** 9:30 a.m.
Description: Hit the trails early to catch the masters of the sky in action. This guided 2 mile hike will take you deep into the heart of prime birding territory. Enjoy learning birding skills from our local expert. Whether you're after Roadrunners or Ravens, Humming or Hawks, San Tan holds the key to an unforgettable birding adventure.
Core: Animals

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STAFF:

Park Supervisor: Sarah Steele
Interpretive Ranger: Adam Martell
Temp: Peggy Mullin

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MESSAGE FROM THE PARK SUPERVISOR:

Thank you for your continued support and interest in San Tan Mountain Regional Park. We realize that you have a choice when it comes to selecting recreation venues and appreciate your business!

Sincerely,

Sarah Steele

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WHAT TO BRING:

Please wear sturdy shoes (closed-toe), dress appropriately for the weather and bring more water than you think you will need. See descriptions for specifics.

Notes: Fees for guided hikes and programs are included in the park entry fee of \$6 per vehicle or with your annual pass. Reservations are not required unless specified in the program description. Hikes/programs are canceled if heavy inclement weather is imminent. If possible, canceled hikes will be posted on the website –

www.maricopa.gov/parks

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